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Definition of: **RIP**

(1) See [ripping](#).

(2) (**Raster Image Processor**) The [hardware](#) and/or software that rasterizes an image for display or printing. RIPs are designed to rasterize a specific type of data, such as PostScript. As [desktop computers](#) became more powerful, software RIPs became more appealing than specialized hardware RIPs. Software can be upgraded more easily, and the operation is always speeded up by installing a faster CPU. See [rasterize](#).

(2) (**Routing Information Protocol**) A simple routing protocol that is part of the TCP/IP protocol suite. It determines a route based on the smallest hop count between source and destination. RIP is a distance vector protocol that routinely broadcasts routing information to its neighboring routers and is known to waste bandwidth. It also has a limit of 15 hops. If a route is advertised as having 16 hops, it is flagged as unreachable. AppleTalk, DECnet, TCP/IP, NetWare and VINES all use incompatible versions of RIP. See [routing protocol](#).

(3) (**Remote Imaging Protocol**) An earlier graphics format from TeleGrafix Communications, designed for transmitting graphics over low-speed lines. Using a communications program that supported RIP enabled graphical interfaces to be used on a BBS with respectable [performance](#) via modem.

#### RELATED TERMS:

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